



CULTURAL ADVISORY COMMISSION

Minutes of the May 5, 2008 Meeting



Commissioners Present: Michelle Castro; Martin David, Chair; Debi Davis; and P.J. Vaswani

Commissioners Absent: Marwan Fawal, Al Silva (unexcused)

Staff Liaison: Pam Morrison, Staff Liaison

Visitors: None

MATTERS FOR COUNCIL ACTION – Recommend Council refer to the May 20, 2008 Budget Study Session the Commission’s 2008-09 fiscal year requested funding recommendations..

1. **Call to Order and Roll Call.** The meeting was called to order at 7:45 p.m. by Chair David.
2. **Approval of Minutes.** Approval of the minutes from the March 3, 2008 and April 7, 2008 meetings were deferred until the June meeting, as the Commission did not have a quorum of members who were present at either meeting.
3. **Correspondence & Announcements:** Staff reviewed the correspondence received by the Commission, including an announcement from Santa Clara Players regarding their current production of “The Constant Wife.”
4. **New Business**
 - a. **“Americans for the Arts” Annual Conference – Recommendation for Commissioner Attendance.** The Americans for the Arts conference is scheduled for June 20-22, 2008 in Philadelphia. PA. Funds are budgeted in the FY 2007-08 budget for this conference. A decision on this item was deferred until the June meeting to allow Commissioners additional time to check their schedules.
 - b. **Commission Fiscal Year 2008-09 Budget Recommendations.** The Commission reviewed and discussed the funding requests received from local cultural groups as well as for the Commission’s own programs. Staff reminded the Commission that their instructions from the City Manager recommended no more than a 3.3% increase in total expenditures, but that the Commission had flexibility to decide allocations within the total.

The Commissioners all agreed that increases should be provided to each funded cultural group, in acknowledgement of increased operational costs. Recommended increases to individual organizations are nearly all 3.3%, with a slightly higher increase recommended for the Santa Clara Players.

The Commission then reviewed funding for its own events and programs. No changes were recommended for Keep Santa Clara Clean. An increase for Concerts in the Park, from \$4950 to

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\$5175, was recommended in order to increase the amount paid to each performer from \$550 to \$575. The Art Banner program, which is held every other year, was reduced from \$5600 to zero, as no event is planned for 2008-09; instead, it was recommended to increase the amount for Art in Public Places (the sculpture exhibition) by \$5000 to allow the Commission to get an advance start on the back-to-back sculpture exhibitions that were instituted in FY 2007-08. An additional \$1000 was recommended for the Street Dance (total amount of \$13,000) to offset rising event costs. Funding for Commission reserves was recommended at \$2,950, an increase of \$50, due to the increased cost to attend the national (Americans for the Arts) conference.

The total recommended Commission budget is \$373,045, which represents a 3.3% increase over fiscal year 2007-08. Budget recommendations are summarized in the following table:

Item:	FY 2007-08 Funding	FY 2008-09 Recomm'd	Motion Maker	Second	Vote Tally	Yes	No
Triton Museum	\$295,000	304,800	Castro	Davis	4-0	Castro David Davis Vaswani	---
Santa Clara Ballet	13,500	13,950	Davis	Vaswani	4-0	Castro David Davis Vaswani	---
Santa Clara Chorale	10,500	10,850	Castro	Davis	4-0	Castro David Davis Vaswani	---
Santa Clara Players	6,000	6,500	Davis	Vawani	4-0	Castro David Davis Vaswani	---
Mission City Opera	5,150	5,320	Castro	Davis	4-0	Castro David Davis Vaswani	---
Art in Public Places	5,000	10,000	Davis	Castro	4-0	Castro David Davis Vaswani	---
Concerts in the Park	4,950	5,175	Davis	Vaswani	4-0	Castro David Davis Vaswani	---
Keep Santa Clara Clean	500	500	Castro	Davis	4-0	Castro David Davis Vaswani	---
Art Banners	5,600	0					
Street Dance	12,000	13,000	Davis	Vaswani	4-0	Castro David Davis Vaswani	---

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Reserves: (\$2,950 total)							
Membership fees: CALAA	0	0	Vaswani	Davis	4-0	Castro	---
Americans for the Arts	50	50				David	
Other Subscriptions	0	0				Davis	
CALAA Conference	200	200				Vaswani	
Conference: Americans for the Arts	2,500	2550					
Silicon Valley Arts Council Workshops	0	0					
Reimb. to attend funded cultural events	150	150					
Total	\$361,100	\$373,045					

5. Unfinished Business

- c. **“Art in the Air” Banner Display 2008 – Update.** Banners were installed on April 30, and they extend from Lincoln St to Los Padres on El Camino Real. The brochure is currently being printed and delivery is expected on Wednesday May 7. Due to the total number of banners (29 this year) and space constraints on the brochure, not all banners are pictured on the brochure. However, it still provides a nice graphic representation of the display. Staff is working to develop a video of the banner display that can be aired on Channel 15.
- d. **Street Dance 2008 Update.** Information about Alcoholic Beverages Control (ABC) training for volunteers who will be selling beer and wine at the street dance was provided to Commissioner Davis; she will share the information with the Sister Cities Association (who will be staffing the beer/wine booth at the street dance).
- e. **Concerts in the Park 2008 Update.** Contracts will be sent to performers within the next two weeks.
- f. **Triton Museum of Art – Report of Activities.** Commissioner Davis reported on the most recent Triton Board meeting, which included an update on the museum’s activities. The most recent activity report was distributed to Commissioners as well.

6. **Commissioner Reports.** Commissioners reported on cultural activities of general interest. Three of the Commissioners attended the Triton Gala.

7. **Public Presentations.** None.

8. **Adjournment.** As there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:45 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, June 2, 2008, at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle Castro
Recording Secretary